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CONSERVATION AREA



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THE AREA

In the early half of the 1900's, Anderson Lake was a private shooting grounds for one of the many once-famous duck clubs which dotted the Illinois River valley. Since the first land purchases by the state in 1947, the site has been operated as a public hunting and fishing area.

The 2135-acre area is in west-central Illinois, about 14 miles southwest of Havana in Fulton County along Route 100.

NATURAL FEATURES

Anderson Lake is a floodplain lake which frequently receives overflow waters from the Illinois River. The lake has 1,134 surface acres with a maximum depth of six feet and an average depth of four feet. Carlson Lake is a waterfowl management area having 230 surface acres with a maximum depth of five and an average depth of three feet. This area is drained in early summer, planted to duck feed and flooded in the fall to attract waterfowl to the area.

The area is a picturesque bottomland setting with timber species dominated by silver maple, cottonwood and willow. Plant growth is lush and the timber tends to be tall. A variety of waterfowl abounds in the area.

FACILITIES

Picnicking: The site has several picnic areas with two shelters, tables and drinking water.

Camping: The campgrounds are on the west bank of the lake and provide for both tents and trailers. A sanitary dump station is also available.

Fishing: Crappie, bluegill, bullhead, bass and channel cat fishing is consistently good in early and late spring. Ice fishing for crappie and bluegill is also popular.

The area provides boat docks, two public boat ramps and state-owned rental boats. State-owned rental boats are limited to 10 horsepower motors.

Hunting: Waterfowl populations consist chiefly of mallard and wood duck. The area provides blind sites for waterfowl hunting in the fall months. Upland game consisting of rabbits, quail, and squirrel is also open to hunting. Dove hunting is available on agricultural fields which are planted in sunflowers and wheat if river levels permit. Deer may be taken by bow and arrow. Check with the site superintendent for specific times and dates.

Please: This area is for all to enjoy so help keep it clean. Put all litter in the nearest available



trash container. No flowers, plants, shrubs or trees may be removed or damaged. If you need help or have a question, contact the site superintendent.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Groups of 25 or more persons will not be admitted to any state site unless permission from the site superintendent has been obtained to use the facilities. In addition, groups of minors must have adequate supervision and at least one responsible adult must accompany each group of 15 minors. All pets must be on a leash.

Numerous state sites are within easy access of every part of Illinois. Lodges, cabins and dining rooms are important features of Illinois Beach, Starved Rock, Pere Marquette and Giant City; White Pines Forest has cabins and dining rooms

only, and Black Hawk has dining rooms only. Reservations for lodging should be made with lodge managers.

Most state sites are open year round, except on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. When weather conditions necessitate the closing of roads during freezing and thawing periods, access to facilities is by foot only. This area is prone to flooding by the Illinois River so during periods of wet weather please contact the site superintendent prior to any visits to determine the site's status.

For more details on this site, contact the Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Astoria, 61501, phone 309/759-4484. For more information on other recreation areas write Department of Conservation, Land and Historic Sites, 524 S. Second St., Springfield, 62706.

Park Maps

